MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JUNE 1982

Lebanon

Knesset Debate on Lebanon -- Israel is willing to allow the "terrorists" to keep their personal weapons but under no condition will they be allowed to remain in Beirut, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin declared in a live speech to the Knesset carried by Jerusalem radio. Begin said the "terrorists" have the choice of leaving the capital by the Beirut-Damascus highway, or through Tripoli in Lebanon to Syria, or by sea. Israel does not want to humiliate the "terrorists," he said, and that is why they are not being asked to surrender. The prime minister added that they are not entitled to pose conditions to Israel and he described as "worthless" a proposal in which the leaders and commanders would leave and the soldiers would stay.

Defending his earlier statement that Israel would not enter Beirut, "which from a political point of view it was appropriate to state," Begin went on to tell the Knesset that he will not rule out an attack on the capital although he noted that the government has not made a decision to enter the city. He continued by noting that he would not commit himself to anything and said an announcement that Israel would not enter the city would give the "terrorists" no incentive to leave. Asserting that before Israel can resume its alliance with Lebanon it must first get rid of the "terrorist plague," Begin asked the Knesset for patience and said "in another day or two we will get them out." The prime minister appealed to civilians in Beirut to leave the city and advised "all the other parties" that they have no alternative other than the dignified way out they are being given. Begin said he thought Israel could make the PLO leave without resorting to force.

Commenting on the future of Lebanon, Begin predicted that the Lebanese will reach an agreement among themselves and will establish a government and an army. He added that the United States, and Israel, if necessary, will help equip their army with modern weapons. He stated that following all of this, Israel will sign a peace treaty with Lebanon.

Earlier, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon opened the Knesset debate on Lebanon with a speech in which he catalogued the history of Israel's conflict with the PLO and provided details of Cabinet decisions pertaining to the "Peace for Galilee" Operation. In his remarks, which were broadcast live by Jerusalem radio, Sharon said the operation has achieved five objectives: the capture of a security belt of 40 to 45 km; the encirclement of the PLO's headquarters and members; the elimination of the Syrian SAM's; the creation of an opening for a political settlement; and the creation of an opening for peace with another Arab state. Israel is determined that the PLO should no longer exist, Sharon added, but is not fighting the Palestinian people, with whom it wants to coexist. The defense minister expressed hope that Israel will soon be able to realize a "triangle of peace" formed by Israel, Egypt and Lebanon.

Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres stressed in his speech to the Knesset that while the PLO has been beaten, the Palestinian problem remains unsolved. Israel must recognize that the problem exists and must be solved in a political way. "We must sit down with the Palestinians, whatever their views, on condition that they recognize Israel, reject terror and seek peace," Peres stated in his remarks, which were also broadcast by the radio.

Other Israeli Comment, Reportage -- Israel takes a very "grave view" of PLO procrastination and rejects demands that the PLO retain units within the Lebanese Army and a political nucleus in Beirut, according to Jerusalem radio. Noting that Israel is "unprepared" to receive the PLO's demand that the IDF withdraw from the suburbs of Beirut. The radio stressed that such a demand has not come from the Lebanese Government. The Israeli Cabinet met briefly late on 29 June to discuss "a certain development" in Beirut, the radio subsequently reported, and high-level sources emphasized that if the "terrorists" do not leave Lebanon within the shortest period of time, the Cabinet will meet again to decide on a new resolution.

Arab Contacts, PLO Position -- After reporting that a draft solution to the Beirut problem was imminent, Beirut radio subsequently said nothing concrete and final has yet been achieved, since Israel's refusal to withdraw from around Beirut has made it impossible to implement many proposals concerning details. Citing informed sources, the radio said the PLO demands specific guarantees from the United States to ensure that the IDF will not enter the capital after the departure of the Palestinian Resistance. Political contacts continued throughout the day, the radio said, with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan twice meeting U.S. envoy Philib Habib and also holding contacts with Phalangist and PLO officials. Noting that Al-Wazzan contacted Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Voice of Lebanon radio said the Saudis were making strenuous efforts to find an appropriate means for the departure of the Palestinians from Beirut. The radio reaffirmed that the Saudi initiative centers on airlifting the Palestinian leaders and fighters on Saudi planes to a place of their choice outside Lebanon.

Meanwhile, a FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH editorial broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the PLO is seeking a minimum in safeguards to protect Beirut and the Palestinian Revolution and masses. However, the PLO's minimum conditions must be agreed on with the Lebanese authorities and not with the Israelis, the paper added.

Other Diplomatic Efforts -- While Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali returned to Cairo from Washington, where his diplomatic efforts had a "great effect" in bringing about the cease-fire in Lebanon, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reached an agreed formula on Lebanon in talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson in Paris according to reports by MENA. Meanwhile, AFP noted that the Arab League foreign ministers would meet again to discuss Lebanon on 30 June and that the EEC leaders issued a summit declaration restating the Palestinian right to self-determination and calling for the complete and rapid withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, except those authorized by the Lebanese Government.

Cease-Fire, Military Situation -- Although Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Israeli and Syrian forces exchanged fire in the mountainous central sector during the day and night of 29 June, Jerusalem radio said that Syrian and "terrorist" units were fighting Phalangists in the Druze villages north of Bhamdun and that the IDF had maintained the cease-fire. In west Beirut a new organization called "The Red Hand" has threatened to strike U.S. interests to avenge the crushing of the PLO, the Voice of Lebanon said.

Jordanian Comment -- "What has happened in Lebanon is not due to Soviet failure, but to our own failure," the Amman paper AR-RA'Y commented on 28 June. Amman radio subsequently noted that the events in Lebanon had occupied an important part of King Husayn's talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow and that viewpoints were "identical" on the issue.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian Foreign Ministry "reply" to the Iraqi withdrawal from Iran declared that the withdrawal demonstrates nothing but the weakness of the Iraqi president, Tehran radio reported. The ministry said that by continuing to bomb and attack residential areas in southern and western Iran, even after its "so-called cease-fire", the Iraqi regime shows it does not even respect its own unilateral peace. The statement asserted that in view of this, Iran will continue the war until the sources of Iraqi fire are silenced and an honorable peace is secured.

In an interview carried by Tehran radio, Supreme Defense Council representative 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared that the Iraqi "retreat" was not motivated by a desire for peace. He asserted that the Iraqis have not yet completely withdrawn since they still control "many of the heights and even a small portion of the south in Shalamcheh."

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DEFENSE MINISTER ON WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT

BK261647 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] Some more ordnance factories are being set up as part of government's plan to achieve self-sufficiency in defense equipment. Defense Minister Venkataraman today gave details of what has already been achieved in this direction. He was addressing the consultative committee of MP's of his ministry in New Delhi.

The minister said that a new weapon system is being developed to replace the antitank system which is of the second world war vintage. A new version of the powerful 105-mm fieldgun is in an advanced stage of development. A great deal of progress has been made in developing the new main battle tank which will have better mobility, firepower and capacity to survive. He said a lot of work has also been done on missiles, including their guidance system.

A factory is being set up at Hyderabad for producing special alloys used for making aircraft.

The committee members expressed concern about thefts and pilferages of defense stores while in transit. The defense minister said a working group is looking into the problem.

TALKS HELD WITH BANGLADESH ON GANGES SHARING

BK251410 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 25 Jun 82

[Text] Both India and Bangladesh have expressed great optimism about the talks on sharing of the Ganges Waters at Farakka and augmenting its flows beginning in New Delhi tomorrow.

Leader of the Bangladesh delegation A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan and leader of the Indian delegation Kedar Pandey told newsmen today that the second mandatory review of the agreement may lead to a fair and equitable solution given the atmosphere of trust and friendliness between the two countries. Khan said the recent visit of External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao to Dacca has helped to create a positive atmosphere.

Earlier, the Bangladesh delegation was received at the airport by Irrigation Minister Kedar Pandey, Minister of State for Irrigation Z.R. Ansari and other high officials of both countries.

Reports Reviewed

BK261605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jun 82

[Text] In New Delhi, India and Bangladesh today exchanged reports reviewing the agreement between the two countries on sharing of the Ganges waters at Farakka and on augmenting its flows. The exchange took place at a meeting between Bangladesh Agriculture Minister Obaidullah Khan and Kedar Pandey, the minister of irrigation. The review examined the working of the agreement and its impact as also the progress of arrangements envisaged in it.

A joint statement was signed by both the ministers at the end of the talks today. Both sides noted that the arrangement for sharing of the Ganges waters at Farakka had been fully carried out as provided in the agreement.

They, however, differed on the impact of the sharing on the two countries. On the question of augmenting the flows of the Ganges during the dry season, the two sides said that this is a matter to be decided by India and Bangladesh at a high political level. They noted that this process has already started.

Bangladesh Team Departs

BK291629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] India and Bangladesh today expressed their determination to arrive at an agreement quickly on sharing the waters of the Ganges at Farakka and the augmentation of its flows. They have sought the necessary political directions from the two governments in this regard. This was stated in a joint press statement in New Delhi after 6 days of discussions between the delegations of the two countries. They are to meet again in Dacca in August.

Bangladesh Minister for Agriculture A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan and his delegation have gone back to Dacca. They were seen off at Delhi airport by Minister of Irrigation Kedar Pandey, who led the Indian side.

The leaders of both delegations expressed the hope that concerted and sincere efforts of the two sides would lead to a solution of the problem. Pandey said both sides appreciated each other's difficulties. Obaidullah Khan said there is a new dimension of political will to solve the problem. They now show a much better possibility of coming to a mutually acceptable arrangement.

Obaidullah Khan earlier met Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi. They had a general review of the results of the New Delhi discussions. Khan conveyed to Mrs Gandhi the good wishes and greetings from Lt Gen Ershad, the chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh. Mrs Gandhi reciprocated her sentiments and said India consistently supports its neighbors and extends all possible assistance to them.

ONE KILLED BY POLICE IN ORISSA VILLAGE

BK281700 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jun 82

[Text] One person was killed and three others were injured when the police opened fire at Aradi, a cyclone-affected village in the Balasore District of Orissa yesterday.

According to an official report, the police resorted to firing when a large group of supporters of Communist Party of India-Marxist dragged out and attacked the additional tahsildar [chief of a village] who was distributing house-building grants to the cyclone-affected people.

Home Secretary R.N. Das told the All-India Radio Bhubaneshwar correspondent that the situation is now well under control. Chief Minister J.B. Patnaik has asked the district magistrate of Balasore to conduct an inquiry into the incident.

BRIEFS

OIL, GAS IN GODAVARI -- New Delhi, June 28 (AFP) -- Commercial production of oil and gas in the Godavari estuary in southeastern India may be possible within the "next few months", Indian Petroleum Minister P. Shiv Shankar said today. Shiv Shankar told reporters in Vijayawada, southern Andhra state, that engineers and geologists working the Godavari basin had assured him that there are "tremendous" prospects of getting large quantities of oil and gas in the area, Press Trust of India news agency reported. Mr Shiv Shankar said the state-run Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) perspective plan for the decade might have to be recast to undergo some changes to accelerate drilling and processing operations in the southern oil zone, which extends from the Palk Straits to Godavari basin. The minister said he had instructed the ONGC to get two more rigs to the offshore drilling sites in the Godavari basin. The first of them would arrive in a few weeks' time. An Indian team is currently in Washington negotiating a "big" World Bank loan for prospecting the Krishna-Godavari region. The ONGC has set an oil production target of 17.91 million tons this year -- 5.80 from onshore and 12.11 million tons offshore -- as against 13.20 million tons last year. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0009 GMT 29 Jun 82 BK]

AIR CHIEF'S TENURE EXTENDED ADDITIONAL YEAR

BK271538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Jun 82

[Text] A pressnote has been issued by the Defense Ministry today which states that the Government of Pakistan has extended the tenure of office of the Pakistani Air Force chief, Air Chief Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamin, by 1 year from 22 July 1982.

FURTHER ON 22 JUNE ARREST OF POLITICAL WORKERS

GF251309 Karachi DAWN in English 23 Jun 82 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] About 40 political leaders and workers, students and members of different women organisations were rounded up by the police in Saddar area on Tuesday afternoon for trying to stage a demonstration in support of the Palestinians.

They were arrested in small batches and taken to nearby police stations in pick-ups.

Hundreds of political activists belonging to the Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) and defunct Pakistan National Party (PNP) were present to participate in the planned demonstrations. But a strong police posse, armed with teargas shells, guns and sticks, frustrated their attempts to take out a procession from Saddar to the American Consulate to register their protest against the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the U.S. policies in the Middle East.

The Palestinians who also participated in the demonstration made an attempt to take out a procession. But the armed police chased them out and dispersed them. While dispersing, they raised slogans against the Israeli aggression in Lebanon and American support to the Zionist invasion.

About four handbills, including one by the Palestinians, were distributed among the people who were there to watch or participate in the planned demonstration.

The shopkeepers in the Saddar area pulled down their shutters as the police tried to disperse the crowd.

DAWN: ISRAEL 'PRACTICING GENOCIDE' IN LEBANON

GF251221 Karachi DAWN in English 25 Jun 82 p 9

[Editorial: "Hitler's Legatees"]

[Text] It would appear that what the Jews suffered at the hands of Adolf Hitler is now being taken out on the Arabs. The past thirty years are replete with Zionist atrocities towards the Arabs, not only in Palestine where Muslim and Jew lived in peace for centuries, but also towards Arabs of other countries. Drawing a parallel with Hitler's actions may seem exaggerated but the Israelis are practising the same genocide in Lebanon with guns which Hitler did with gas chambers in Germany or occupied territories. There is also the analogy between Hiter's technique of mounting a lightning military attack upon his victims after a propaganda campaign accusing the latter of hostile deeds and Israel's similar conduct towards the Arabs. Israel may deny that its forces are killing Palestinians and civilians alike in a wanton manner, and Western media and governments may look the other way or support its assertion, but it is gradually becoming clear despite this cover-up that the Israeli aim is to wipe out the Palestinians as a fighting unit, and it does not care how many innocent lives are taken in the process. Independent sources are now confirming that this is a fact, among which are eyewitness accounts by two Norwegian doctors of the brutal treatment of Palestinians by Israeli soldiers.

The continued bombing of civilian areas alone has resulted in enormous loss of life. At one time it had seemed that Israel would restrict itself to whatever territory it had gained in Lebanon, and withdraw after a settlement favourable to it had been achieved. But repeated violations of cease-fires by Israel, and continued occupation of territory has made the war a wait-and-see game to find out what the future brings, and how far Israel is going to go.

Amidst all the condemnation of Israel's aggression, no country seems to be willing to examine its own motives and behavior during the short war which has already wreaked such havoc, and showed up the Islamic countries in such a pathetic light.

In its drive to Beirut Israel went far beyond the pretence of retaliation to PLO shelling, or what may be considered reasonable support to Mr Begin's slogan of 'Peace for Galilee'. The drive was quite obviously aimed at annihilating the present structure of Lebanon and imposing one favourable to Israel, removing for quite some time to come the PLO threat, and forcing Syria to withdraw. And while the Israelis advanced ruthlessly towards Beirut, mindlessly killing Palestinians and civilians in the process, the world stood by and watched helplessly. The question is: Was the world really so helpless or, more specifically, was the Muslim world incapable of taking action which would have prevented or minimised the tragedy?

The West can be condemned for its inaction or complicity, but the reality is that the concepts of morality or justice have no part to play when it comes to international jockeying for power. Ultimately Israel's decision was based on a reading of America's mind and the mood of the Islamic nations, and it is quite obvious that its assessment was chillingly accurate. If there had been real danger of resolute military support from Islamic nations, the decision to invade Lebanon would not have been so easy to take. Warnings had been given several times that Israel was planning to attack Lebanon; in fact, so certain was this that it was really only a matter of judging the time it would choose. Yet there was little response from the Islamic countries. Two front-line states, Egypt and Jordan, had already been neutralised. Sabrerattling by one particular Arab state came too late in the day, and even then it was just that. The warnings by some other states were similarly late. Syria, the only Arab state having a military presence in Lebanon, assessed that at the moment it did not have the necessary support to take on the burden of war.

Ahmed Ben Bella summarised the whole affair when he said that the indifference of Arab governments and their failure to react to Israeli aggression was another proof of their powerlessness to confront the international Zionist plot for total domination of the entire region.

Strong words, but borne out by the events of the past weeks. Egypt was condemned for its talks and 'peace' with Israel. How that affair is judged is up to individual nations' perception. But in the light of the tragic bloodshed of the last few weeks, it does appear that there is a flaw in the reasoning of the so-called hard-line nations. If they are not prepared to make peace, they should be prepared to make war; Israel has shown repeatedly that as far as it is concerned, there can be no question of any Arab country taking a non-commital stand. But events in Lebanon have shown conclusively that this is precisely what the Arab and Islamic countries are trying to do, that is, unless commitment means only verbal support.

In the face of the horrendous bloodshed in Lebanon, which largely went unreported by the Western media, and keeping in mind the atrocities of Sidon, one can legitimately ask the Arab and Islamic countries whether they think the limit of Israel's ambitions has been reached and whether they are willing to accept an Israeli peace being imposed upon a large part of the Islamic region.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPLY TO IRAQI WITHDRAWAL CLAIM

LD291852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued the following reply concerning the claims of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq addressed to international associations and organizations:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Ba'thist regime of Iraq, with the criminal Saddam at its head, recently hatched a new plot in order to save its shaky government and is appealing to international organizations for the purpose of securing an artificial peace. The people of the world remember well that Saddam Husayn never approached any international organization 22 months ago when he launched a cowardly attack against the newly established Islamic Republic of Iran and invaded our homeland in a surprise offensive from land, air and sea in order to topple this republic because he felt that having the power to occupy vast areas of the territory of our Islamic homeland he had no need to approach the international organizations.

The question we should ask now is this: What has happened that the aggressive Saddam Husayn, who did not have any respect for international organizations and their regulations when he was pounding (?the people) and residential districts of Dezful, Abadan and Susangerd with 9-meter missiles and was proud to hear his foreign minister happily announcing that forces of that country were able to massacre thousands of the Iranian people, is now appealing to international organizations to secure a so-called peace? No doubt the reply to this question is summarized in the glorious victories of the combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran and in the disgraceful defeats of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq, which resulted in the liberation of many of the occupied territories and the capture of 42,000 mercenary Iraqi forces. The importance of these victories can be appreciated when we remember that the combatants of Islam, after months of bravely resisting the overall Iraqi attack, were able to change the tide of the war in their own favor gradually and afterward to deliver the final blows against the enemy one after another.

These defeats were inflicted on the Iraqi regime when the Iraqi soldiers and officers recognized Saddam's deceptions and surrendered in droves to the combatant forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. But the world public opinion is aware that this is not the first time that Saddam has resorted to such conspiracies. Saddam's face is better known to the people of the world and no one can be deceived by his (?gestures) such as contacting international organizations and unilateral withdrawal.

No doubt the announcement of withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from the occupied territories of Iran within 10 days, as announced by Saddam, demonstrates nothing else but the weakness and disgrace of this criminal. He, who at one time with a detestable arrogance was calling himself a hero and the conquerer of Qadisiyah [scene of an Iranian defeat in 642 A.D.], is now calling it a withdrawal for peace after he has been inflicted with such a disgraceful defeat and has been forced to abandon his positions and, while keeping the strategic regions, he is planting mines in areas which he has to leave.

But the interesting point is this: The Iraqi regime does not even respect its unilateral peace. By continuing to bomb residential areas in southern and western Iran and by continuing to wound and martyr dozens of our compatriots, he removes the peace-loving mask from his face.

On the other hand, millions of the people who have been made homeless and who lost their belongings as a result of Iraq's barbaric attacks, are still unable to return to their cities because the Iraqi forces continue to bomb these regions.

These crimes committed by the Iraqi regime against Iranian cities and residential areas, even after its so-called cease-fire, resemble very much the crimes committed by the usurping regime of Al-Quds in (Kuneitra) and recently in Lebanon. These crimes expose the similar nature of these two criminal regimes better than anything else ever before.

The existing aerial photographs show very well that the Iraqi forces, when forced to leave the cities under the blows of combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran, leave nothing behind but piles of destruction and misery. Naturally, under such circumstances, the Islamic Republic of Iran cannot remain indifferent while witnessing the daily martyrdom or wounding of its citizens at the hands of the Iraqi mercenary forces. Therefore, it will continue its honorable war against Saddam's regime, which is on the verge of collapse, until the sources of Iraqi fire are silenced and an honorable peace is secured. The most important principles of this peace are: the unconditional withdrawal of all the forces of the Ba'thist regime from the Islamic homeland, payment of reparation by the aggressor and his trial and punishment.

RAFSANJANI COMMENTS ON IRAQI WITHDRAWAL

GF291555 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Interview with 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Ayatollah Khomeyni's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, following the 29 June session of the council -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] (?Mr Hashemi), as you know, the Sadam mercenaries have evacuated some of the western cities. However, the evacuation has left the cities in a state of destruction, for example, in Qasr-e Shirin. Please tell us your opinion on the subject and give us any new information you can in this connection.

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. One of the reasons for this session of the Supreme Defense Council was to review this new development and to obtain exact information from those in charge of the war. The commander of the ground forces, therefore, participated in the session. We obtained the details of the events.

In general, it seems that Iraq is retreating in the face of our forces. That is to say, it is not their desire for peace or ending the war which has caused this new move. Iraq has felt that our forces have plans concerning the parts of the Iranian soil occupied by Iraq and since experience has shown them that our moves result in the capture or the destruction of great parts of their forces -- especially in the attacks it suffered in the west at the hands of our forces -- it has resorted to escape to save itself. The areas where Iraq would have been vulnerable have been evacuated.

Of course, the evacuation was not under normal conditions since they have left much of their equipment behind. Our forces which chased them are currently busy collecting the ammunition and equipment they left behind.

In order to emphasize that Iraq has only resorted to a tactical retreat and escape, [I should say] they have not left our soil and have only moved to more defensible positions out of areas where they were vulnerable. The western heights of our country, the final border areas, are currently in the hands of the Iraqis. These include the (Zeyn al-Kush) heights, which are very important strategically. There are many other areas as well. This may be a cautious move by them but it is prodded by fear and is being done in order to avoid further losses and capture, something that the Iraqi Army cannot handle now.

[Question] What other actions will the Supreme Defense Council undertake in order to expel the rest of the Saddam mercenaries from the soil of the Islamic homeland and -- considering the recent actions by the Saddamist mercenaries -- and obtain compliance with the other two conditions?

[Answer] We have the same position as before. That is to say, nothing new has come up. This is similar to the Iraqi escapes from Hamid garrison and Susangerd -- I am sorry -- Hoveyzeh. When they saw that our forces -- probably they obtained some information -- intended to attack, they fled. Nothing new has come up. They have only acted in order to move to a stronger position. They have not even complied with our first condition.

The unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces has not yet been met since many of our heights and even a small portion of the south in Shalamcheh are under their control. Even if, as they lied, they are leaving our country and are returning to the pre-war international borders, then only one of the conditions the imam has set has been met. We have the same position as before about obtaining the rest of our demands. We will continue the road we have chosen. Of course, it is our habit that whenever we carry out an operation and teach the enemy a lesson, then we give the enemy a little time to think, ponder, realize and maybe surrender to right. When we see that they do not realize this and have no intention of surrendering to right then we make our next move.

I hereby inform the dear Iranian nation that the youth who have war experience should go to the arena as soon as possible in order to make it possible for us to end the war quickly and obtain our rights and thus bring our forces into the service of reconstruction within the country. They should not think that they have to wait out the month of Ramadan. The best form of worship in Ramadan is crusading for God. They should not even miss a day and, if possible, they should go to the fronts today. This is because the situation in the world is such that the sooner we obtain our rights from the aggressor the better it will be for us and the region.

[Question] What decisions have been taken in order to combat the adverse propaganda by our Zionist and imperialist enemies concerning the evacuation of these western parts?

[Answer] I do not think they can carry out any effective propaganda since, as I said, they [the Iraqis] are still holding onto the sensitive heights and cannot leave them. These heights have a very important military value and I do not think the Iraqis will leave them easily and of their own volition. Therefore, they have no grounds for propaganda. Secondly, following our heroic victory in Khorramshahr, the Iraqi evacuation of another city, township or village has no [propaganda] value. If they had done this before the Khorramshahr and Jerusalem Operations [bayt al-moqaddas] then they would have been successful.

Finally, how would they answer to our logical statements? It has been almost 2 years since they pitted two countries against one another in destructive war. They have involved several other countries as well and destroyed the sources of the wealth of the Islamic countries. By doing this they have left the hand of Israel free to commit aggressions in Lebanon. How are they going to answer this? With what propaganda?

They have to return our rights, pay us for the damages. We do not want anything else. Those who are the instigators of this great crime have to be brought to justice. These are matters which are well understood by those who should. Western propaganda has been so extensive that they have nothing to add at this point. They will not get anywhere with new scenarios like this.

[Question] As you are aware, Saddam has changed some of his ministers and advisers following the crisis in the Iraqi leadership cadre. What do you think caused these events?

[Answer] I cannot make a decisive judgment yet. I have not read the news in detail and do not know the nature of those who have been removed or the new arrivals. The general atmosphere of the situation, however, shows that this is a move similar to their military move.

As far as I know, the main faces ruling the country have remained. The secondary faces have no importance. Even supposing the main faces had been changed, we would not consider it sufficient. Even if Saddam had been removed, it would not have been sufficient since the Ba'th Party is responsible. Of course, the main responsibility lies with the United States, but the role of the servant was that of the Ba'th Party.

[Question] [Words indistinct] regarding the activities of U.S. [word indistinct] in southern Lebanon, interference by certain other countries, and the question of the disarming of the Palestinians and that of the Lebanese refugees. What is the aim of such actions and what plans do we have regarding our own fighters in Lebanon?

[Answer] Looking back into the past at the proceedings at the United Nations and events in the region and in the world in general, events in this country have (?somewhat cleared) up. First, owing to its aggressive nature, Israel has always looked for opportunities to expand its territory. This has been done. Now the question of returning to the status quo: Unless there is effective and definitive pressure, Israel will not return to its former position.

Second, the Israelis have been thinking for a long time of placing a puppet regime in Lebanon which would cooperate with Israel and its friends.

Third, the Israelis were apprehensive of the Palestinian armed forces (?near) Israeli territory, and Israel, its friends, and those people in the region who did not want to engage in war with Israel wanted to annihilate the Palestinians as a military force. [Words indistinct] if they succeed it would be a great success for Israel but for the Islamic world it would be a matter of grave concern.

Fourth, the presence of Syria in Lebanon was very important and the Israelis also wanted to end Syrian power in Lebanon and were ready to (?pay the price) for it. [Words indistinct] this also enabled them to move nearer to Syria through Lebanon and closer to its strategic points.

In connection with this, the most important problem is the position of Iran. When the Israelis saw that an Iranian victory would change the balance in the region they wanted to create a political situation that would tie the hands of Iran or involve Iran in something that would stay its hand and would (?weaken it) politically. God be praised, they were defeated in this objective.

This was possible thanks to the foresight and clear objectives of the imam. We seized the situation in time. However, the question of Lebanon and Palestine are important problems and form a part of our principles, and one of the objectives of our revolution is that these countries remain free.

In this matter we did not delay and [words indistinct] despite the difficulties involved, a force was immediately sent there. We thought that we were setting an example for the Arabs and the rest of Islamic world by being a country which, in spite of being (?itself engaged) in war goes quickly to a sensitive spot. We expected that our presence would encourage the presence of other Islamic countries and make them act as we did. If they would send forces equal to what we have sent, tens of Islamic countries would be brought into confrontation with America and Israel. This could make an important impression. It could also prevent them from achieving their objective.

We have done our part and have sent as many as we could. It was very difficult for us but we finally solved the problem with some hardship. (?We were ready at that time) and we will be ready in the future as well.

The very first day we arrived in Syria, the rulers of Syria, especially Hafiz al-Asad, said that our main work was on the Iraqi borders. That place was important and until we solve the problem there, the problem in Lebanon cannot be solved. Libya told us the same thing.

COMMENTARY PLEDGES SADDAM 'WILL BE PUNISHED'

LD300948 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 30 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary from the "Revolution Guards" program]

[Excerpts] Following the American regime of Iraq's savage attack on Iran 21 months ago when the Islamic Republic of Iran asked that the aggressor be tried and the occupiers be punished, Iran showed the world its relentless and uncompromising defense of human rights, the greatness of mankind, the honor of the creatures of God as well as Iran's nature and legitimate rights and proved that Iran is a relentless defender of human rights and an uncompromising enemy of all inhuman aggressors and oppressors, both in the war imposed by Iraq and in the world of mankind.

Now, 21 months after inviting the world to try and punish the aggressor, the Islamic Republic of Iran is determined to undertake this great divine and humane task itself. With the help of its powerful military forces, which enjoy vast popular support, Iran is determined to punish the aggressor for more than 21 months of crime, destruction, mass slaughter and aggression and to show the world that in the face of the silence of those who proclaim to defend human rights, only Iran -- by relying on the divine strength of its revolution -- is capable of punishing the savage and evil mercenaries of America and Israel.

The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Guards Corps of the Islamic revolution of Iran and the popular and tribal forces have repeatedly shown this great truth -- especially with the liberation of Khorramshahr and the great victories of the Jerusalem Operation -- that, with the strength of their faith and their belief in God, they are capable of defeating and destroying the forces of the At-Tikriti Saddam in spite of all the assistance and facilities he receives from both the East and the West, and this time it will certainly be so.

Our powerful forces are ready to defend the rights of the oppressed people and to restore not only the usurped rights of the innocent people of Iran and Iraq, but the rights of all the people of the world, wherever America and international Zionism trample on human rights. It is certain that America is frightened by this. After the signs of Saddam's certain downfall appeared, America tried very hard to prevent -- by making certain concessions to us -- first the downfall of Saddam and, second, the exposure of the deceptions of human rights throughout the world. However, our stance was decisive both in attaining our rights and in defending the rights of uncompromising people.

Today we are about to retrieve the rights of thousands of our martyrs and the rights of our ruined cities and villages from Saddam. By punishing this mercenary of international Zionism, we are about to show the world of the oppressed that humanity is not dead yet and that the notion of truly defending mankind still exists. Yes, we will punish Saddam.

IRANIAN FORCES STATIONED AROUND QASR-E SHIRIN

LD291728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] The IRNA correspondent who, following the evacuation of Qasr-e Shirin from the aggressive forces of the Zionist Saddam, visited that city, reports that the houses and buildings of Qasr-e Shirin have been levelled to the ground by the criminal Saddamists.

According to this report, the self-sacrificing members of the reconstruction crusade early today started their activities to reconstruct bridges and roads leading to Qasr-e Shirin.

The fighting forces of Islam have been stationed along the roads which end in Qasr-e Shirin.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 959

GF292021 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Communique No 959 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Muslim combatants are continuing to consolidate God's government and cleanse the sacred borders of the Islamic homeland of the enemies with full determination and steadfastness. They are determined to rub the face of Saddam's regime in the dirt and achieve the full objectives of the Islamic Republic of Iran with all their strength.

During the past 24 hours the Muslim combatants returned enemy fire on all battlefronts, inflicting heavy blows.

On the western fronts, exchange of fire continued. As a result of artillery fire by the Islamic forces on enemy positions, 8 heavy and light enemy vehicles, 1 Saddamist depot, an enemy vehicle assembly point and 28 military assembly points were destroyed. During these operations, seven vehicles were set on fire, fatal blows were dealt to an enemy column and the movements of enemy forces were paralyzed.

In the Marivan area, as a result of the superiority of our forces' firepower, enemy sources of heavy fire were silenced in the areas of (Waliabeh) and Hargineh, and all movements by the aggressor forces were paralyzed.

As a result of the fire directed by the heroes of Islam in the areas of Abadan and Khorramshahr, four enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud were destroyed and a number of the Saddamist forces were killed. The heroes of Islam also paralyzed, with their heavy fire, the movement of the Saddamist forces on the Al-Faw-Basra road.

Yesterday, as a result of enemy artillery and mortar fire on the Khorramshahr area and several residential areas of Abadan, 3 innocent citizens were martyred and 17 were wounded.

On the other southern fronts, our forces returned the Saddamist forces' sporadic fire.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ILAM ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE REPELS IRAQI PLANES

LD291726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report, some aggressive Iraqi planes last night, at 2010 and 2115, violated Ilam's airspace but before being able to carry out any operations were forced to flee as a result of the heavy antiaircraft fire.

RAFSANJANI MEETS SOVIET, SYRIAN, OTHER ENVOYS

LD292148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tehran met with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, today. During this meeting they held talks and discussed the aggression by usurping Israel on southern Lebanon.

According to the same report, Mr Sa'd Mujbir, the head of the Libyan Peoples Bureau, also met with the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly in Tehran today.

The Indian ambassador in Iran also met and conferred with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. During this meeting, the speaker of the Indian Parliament invited the speaker of the Majlis to visit his country. This invitation was accepted by Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The same report indicates that the Syrian ambassador in Tehran also met and conferred with the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani today. During this meeting, the Syrian ambassador presented a report on the situation at the Lebanese battle-fronts and the dimensions and goals of the Israeli aggression, and said: The president of Syria agrees with the recent remarks made by the imam about the Iran-Iraq war that: First the problem with Iraq should be sorted out and then it will be the turn of the Zionist regime. His excellency welcomed the imam's remarks.

The Syrian ambassador added: If all the Islamic countries had chosen the same decisive stand as the Islamic Republic of Iran and if they all had reached the confrontation point like Iran, then the United States and Israel, who would have found themselves facing the entire Islamic and Arab world, would not have been so bold.

Afterward, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani made some remarks in this connection.

KHOMEYNI GUARDS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED IN JORDAN

GF291855 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] According to our correspondent in the Jordanian capital of Amman, the border police of the country arrested a number of the armed guards of Khomeyni who intended to enter Jordanian territory and sent them off to Damascus a few hours later.

Our correspondent adds: During the questioning of these mercenaries it became clear that they intended to start a series of moves to create unrest following their entry into Jordan in order to encourage the Jordanians to revolt against King Husayn. One of Khomeyni's mercenaries said that the Jordanian king has chosen a wrong policy on the Lebanese crisis and the crushing of the Palestinians and therefore his regime must be toppled.

At the end, our correspondent adds: This group of Khomeyni's guards returned to their headquarters in Damascus on Saturday afternoon.

5 MONARCHISTS GO ON TRIAL IN TEHRAN 29 JUNE

LD292120 Tehran IRNA in English 1920 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] Tehran, June 29, IRNA -- The trial of five members of the monarchist group 'Nima' opened in the military revolutionary tribunal here this morning. Some 250 members of the counterrevolutionary group were arrested when their conspiracy was discovered by the Islamic revolutionary guards late last March.

The trial was chaired by the head of the military revolutionary tribunal, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi Reyshahri who read the charges of the defendants. Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri said that the group had nationalistic tendencies and intended to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran through the use of arms and military measures.

The head of the tribunal further added that the group had taken certain measures to overthrow the Islamic Republic and members of this group were working against the interests of the country and were anti-Islamic. Moreover, he added, members of the group had established ties with foreign circles in a bid to gain financial support and carry out activities such as extortion and kidnapping.

The defendants were Kourosh Sadri, Hamid Baqeri Asghari, Manuchehr Suluki, Karim Amirfarzan and Colonel Darush Dehqani. Two of the defendants in today's session defended themselves and the trial is to resume tomorrow.

VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ON TEHRAN CLASHES

GF300439 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 29 Jun 82

[Text] On Monday, in a clash between the regime's guards and the opposition, two guards were killed and a hardline member of the opposition to the regime of the Islamic Republic of mullahs was severely wounded. According to our correspondent's report on the subject, the professional marchers of the regime came out into the streets of the capital on the orders of the mullahs in order to hold a memorial for the 73 treacherous criminals who were annihilated in the bomb explosion. In Tehran's bazaar a number of merchants opposed participation in the contrived demonstrations of the regime and, as a result, they clashed violently with the regime's guards. Our correspondent adds: The group of armed bazaaris replied to the fire of the Khomeyni's mercenaries and, as a result, killed two of them on location. During the same shootout a bazaari named Eqbal was wounded and taken to a hospital.

We remind you that on Sunday the regime's agents issued a communique in the union of Tehran's guilds -- on the order of the mullahs -- asking the merchants of the capital's bazaar to close their shops on the first anniversary of the death of Beheshti and the other criminals of the regime.

KEYHAN SAYS KORDESTAN 'PURGE' COMPLETED

GF290948 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 14 Jun 82 p 13

[Excerpts] Bakhtaran, KEYHAN correspondent -- Continuing the purging of the main areas of Kordestan, namely Kureh and (Sowrsat), the following villages of the region have been cleansed of the filthy existence of the U.S. counterrevolutionaries: (Bagh-e Kishen), (Baghchen Misheh), Hesar, (Hicheh), (Tarkeh Darreh) and (Kuchi Qal'e Seyyed).

According to a report by the KEYHAN correspondent from Bakhtaran, vast areas of the province have been purged of the counterrevolutionaries by the selfless revolution guards in collaboration with the armed forces and all law enforcement organizations. In these operations seven lackeys belonging to the democratic front were killed and a large number of them were wounded. In the same report, it has been added that in similar operations in the village of (Su'ech Bala'esh) brother guards clashed with (?groups) of members of the democratic front and killed 10 of them. A large amount of ammunition was seized.

According to another report, three deceived persons of the democratic front, one of them named Ahmad Bajlani, gave themselves up to the revolution guards of Marivan and requested amnesty.